

to come in Pennsylvania's 11th Congressional District.

Alex Munro has retired after 30 years as executive director of the Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology Foundation and Alumni Association. Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology is known across the State and across the Nation as a preeminent 2-year degree-granting institution, which prepares students for today's in-demand technical jobs.

Prior to serving the college, Alex graduated from the school then known as the Thaddeus Stevens Trade School, and he talked many times about how it changed his life. He studied masonry at the school. After 25 years in the private sector, successfully applying those skills and the lessons that he learned at Thaddeus Stevens, Alex joined the alumni foundation board before becoming the foundation's executive director in 1990.

Alex has been integral to the advancement of the school, building relationships with elected officials and industry leaders to support expansion of the school's mission and programs.

Alex is known for saying: "Changing lives is not by chance; it is a tradition at Stevens."

That is a tradition that he has dedicated himself to for the past 30 years.

I personally have worked with Alex for a number of years, and I have always appreciated his efforts and candor. I want to thank Alex for all he has done to improve the lives of so many students, and I congratulate him on his retirement.

BIDEN BORDER CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEHLS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NEHLS. Mr. Speaker, for months now, our country has witnessed the never-ending horrific images and stories coming from our southern border. We have seen young children thrown over a 14-foot fence like a rag doll. We have seen children wandering alone, abandoned in south Texas. We have seen thousands of children packed like sardines into holding facilities meant for 250. And we have seen countless horrific tales of young women sexually assaulted by coyotes on their trek up here.

When I traveled to the southern border in March and again in May, I saw the Biden border crisis firsthand. I spoke to Border Patrol agents who said they are beyond spread thin trying to juggle securing the border with an inadequate number of agents, while simultaneously babysitting the unprecedented number of migrant children who continue to flood across our southern border daily. While they are busy babysitting, violent criminal aliens are slipping through undetected.

These stories are indisputable. They are entirely based in fact and truth. But rather than recognize and address the reality of the situation, Democrats

and the Biden administration are downplaying, distracting, and denying. They are downplaying the severity of this crisis by refusing to call it a crisis; saying, instead, it is a challenge. They are denying the crisis by refusing to visit the southern border in person.

It has been 55 days since President Biden tapped KAMALA HARRIS to be the lead on the border, and she still has not visited. And they are distracting from this crisis by talking about anything but the border.

Love him or hate him, under President Trump, we finally had a leader willing to step up and fix the mess at our southern border, a mess our country has failed to deal with for decades, under both Republican and Democrat leadership. President Trump was the only President who truly took the necessary steps to not only stop the flow of illegal aliens across our borders, but to deter caravans from ever forming.

He instituted commonsense policies, like the remain in Mexico policy, ending catch and release, and building a big, beautiful wall with beautiful gates because, as we all know, this isn't about legal immigration; it is about illegal immigration.

□ 1030

We are a nation of laws and law and order, or at least we used to be. Ever since President Biden assumed control of the White House, there has been an outright refusal from his administration to put the American people first and address the growing crisis at our southern border. Their inaction will cost American lives, will cost billions of American taxpayer dollars, and will once again put the responsibility of the Federal Government on individual States.

And I know. I saw it firsthand as a county sheriff for 8 years in Texas. I had to look victims of crime in the eyes after their loved one was killed or their homes were burglarized and tell these individuals: I am sorry for what happened to you, but we caught the guy. And I am sad to tell you that he has been deported four, five, six times.

I had to tell this specifically to dozens of residents in my home county whose homes were burglarized by a burglary ring of illegal aliens from, yes, Honduras and Colombia, many of whom had been deported several times.

In January 2020, I had to tell the son of an elderly Texas woman who was killed in a hit-and-run that the illegal alien who ran his mother over had been deported six times prior. How on Earth does anyone ever get deported more than one time from our country? It happens because the Federal Government is failing to secure the southern border.

It is mind-boggling to me that the Democrat Party has accepted that American lives will be lost and billions of taxpayer dollars wasted so illegal aliens can flood into our country simply because their home country is corrupt or crippled. Economic hardship or

struggle in your home country is not justification for breaking the law and skipping the line of millions of people patiently waiting to legally immigrate here.

We are not the world's charity. We are not a nation of open borders. We are a nation of laws, and it is past time the current administration wakes the hell up and remembers that fact. But I won't hold my breath, and neither should the American people. Democrats have demonstrated right to our faces that they don't care about putting the American people first.

Members of Congress and the American people need to speak up and speak out about the Biden border crisis and hold this administration's feet to the fire until they reverse course.

WE NEED FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to advocate for fiscal responsibility as Congress seeks to craft a budget.

This past year, our Nation has spent more than \$7.6 trillion. That is more than the Federal Government spent in the first 200 years since our founding. With the Federal Government's debt already clocking in at \$28 trillion and rising as I speak, we must face the reality that our grandchildren are going to foot this bill.

On May 12, the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced that inflation had grown by 4.2 percent over the last year. That is the largest 12-month increase since September 2008. Should we continue to spend at the rate that we are spending, our national debt, debt servicing, and costs for household items will continue to skyrocket, making life unaffordable for millions more.

This is not right. It is immoral for us to continue to fulfill the wants and needs of our generation by stealing opportunity from the next. We must do the hard work of meeting our country's needs responsibly.

The Republican Study Committee has proposed such a budget, a conservative budget, one that provides a roadmap toward a better future for our country. This budget gets us back on track in just 5 years while eliminating the deficit and cutting taxes. This is a conservative budget, one that aims to strengthen our Nation and provide better governance.

I am pleased to report that the RSC budget includes four of my legislative proposals, including my bill to require the Congressional Budget Office to include the cost of debt servicing when preparing cost estimates for proposed legislation. Before legislation passes either the House or Senate, lawmakers should know how much it is going to cost, yet Congress routinely ignores the true cost and overstates the benefits of new spending.

The American people have to account for the cost of debt servicing in their

family budgets, and providing Congress with accurate cost estimates that include the cost of debt servicing is commonsense reform that would hold Congress to the same standard, forcing lawmakers to reckon with the actual cost of raising our national debt.

Additionally, this budget is pro-life. It includes my bill, the Women's Public Health and Safety Act, which would help prevent taxpayer dollars from funding abortion providers. This legislation will empower States to end the bankrolling of abortion providers and free up funding for healthcare initiatives for those providers that actually put the well-being of women and babies first.

This budget is pro-Second Amendment. It includes my legislation to prohibit a natural disaster declaration from being used to impose gun or ammo controls.

Finally, this bill is fiscally responsible. It includes my legislation for a Federal sunset commission to monitor the effectiveness of government agencies and prevent wasteful inefficiencies and duplicative programming.

I want to thank the RSC Budget Task Force chairman, Congressman HERN, and the chairman of the RSC, Congressman BANKS, for putting forth a bold budget.

We can get our Nation back on track. We just need to put in the time to do what we have to do here in Washington.

WHAT CONSTITUTES AN INSURRECTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Georgia (Mrs. GREENE) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the commission to study the events of January 6, as well as spending \$2 billion in a security supplemental.

The question that comes to mind is this: What about all the riots that happened during the summer of 2020 after the death of George Floyd? What about all the damage caused to Federal buildings, churches, people's businesses, and innocent people that were killed, like David Dorn?

This past summer, Minneapolis city officials estimate 700 buildings were damaged, burned, or destroyed, including 360 local businesses. Riots caused an estimated \$55 million in damages in Minneapolis alone.

BLM and antifa established an autonomous zone in Seattle and attempted to burn government buildings in Portland. Is that not an insurrection?

On one Friday night alone in New York City, BLM protesters caused over \$100,000 in damages, and 150 people were arrested.

Just one Monday night in Philadelphia resulted in a crowd of 1,000 people looting stores, setting fires in the middle of the street, and 30 police officers injured.

Protests in Kansas City resulted in \$2.1 million in damages, mostly over

the course of one weekend. Several officers were injured as well.

Protests in Wichita, Kansas, cost the police department about \$1.5 million in overtime.

Protests in Salt Lake City cost at least \$100,000 in damages.

Protests in Denver cost the city at least \$5.5 million in damages and overtime.

BLM protesters in Nashville set a Federal courthouse on fire. The destruction is estimated to have cost \$1.2 million in damages. Again, is that an insurrection?

Protesters in Portland destroyed barriers and attempted to burn down government buildings, resulting in \$2.3 million in damages, including \$1.6 million in damages to the courthouse downtown.

In St. Louis, following a night of violence, buildings were looted, vandalized, and burned.

Protestors in Louisville set the courthouse on fire and shot two cops, resulting in a state of emergency order being declared.

Protesters in Kenosha, Wisconsin, injured police officers, set off fireworks near the police and courthouse, and set at least two city trucks on fire.

In Guilford County, North Carolina, a courthouse was broken into and set on fire, resulting in roughly \$200,000 in damages.

Protests in Oakland, California, resulted in a courthouse being set on fire and vandalized.

The LAPD was defunded by \$150 million, and some smaller crime units were eliminated entirely.

Studies show 570 protests in 220 U.S. locations turned violent over the summer. Are those not insurrections?

The \$1-plus billion in riot damages is estimated to be the most expensive in insurance history. It resulted in up to \$2 billion of damages in 20 cities across the U.S., mostly concentrated in L.A., Detroit, Miami, D.C., and New York.

Indeed, we should have a commission to study the violent BLM and antifa mobs that have plagued American cities this past summer, and that is for the American people who, by the way, pay the taxes that fund everything we do here.

Also, we should have a security supplemental to fund all the police departments that have been defunded due to the pressure from radical, violent, and socialist groups. We should back the blue because they certainly back us.

Also, while it is catch-and-release for domestic terrorists, antifa, BLM, the people who breached the Capitol on January 6 are being abused, some even being held for 23 hours a day in solitary confinement.

So, Mr. Speaker, my questions are these: Who placed the pipe bombs at the RNC and the DNC, which is an attack on both Republicans and Democrats? Why was President Trump's request on January 5 for 10,000 National Guard denied, and who denied it, and what chain of command did they fol-

low? Also, who killed Ashli Babbitt, and why is that not being revealed? Does her family not deserve justice? Lastly, when will the witch hunt of Donald J. Trump come to an end, and all of those who support him?

UNREST IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, what Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad are doing to Israel is nothing short of evil and barbaric. Even worse, some of my colleagues across the aisle and in the national media are excusing this violence against our closest ally in the Middle East.

It is a fact that Hamas and the PIJ, if they were to lay down their weapons, there would be peace. But if the Israelis laid down theirs, they would be exterminated. This is no secret because these two terrorist groups explicitly say their goal is to wipe Israel off the face of the map, and their actions back up their words, Mr. Speaker.

I think a history lesson and global current affairs update is in order for Members of Congress and media organizations taking the side of terrorists intent on exterminating Israel and the entire Jewish population.

For starters, nobody should forget that, in 1997, it was President Bill Clinton's State Department that placed Hamas and the PIJ on the United States' list of foreign terrorist organizations. Both groups are still on the list today and for good reason.

Israel removed their forces from the Gaza Strip in 2005, but in 2007, Hamas violently forced out Fatah, its rival Palestinian faction, and consolidated its control over the entire Gaza Strip. A terrorist organization controlling territory within mere miles of Jewish communities leaves Israeli civilians vulnerable to violent attacks, Mr. Speaker.

Israel's military blockade protects its rightful homeland from infiltration by radical jihadi terrorists. The blockade is important for preventing the transfer of weapons from Iran's Revolutionary Guard, which gives support to Hamas and PIJ. God only knows the devastation recent missile attacks would have inflicted if the Iranians were able to smuggle guided missiles into the Gaza Strip.

Despite the blockade, Hamas and PIJ still construct their terror tunnels and manufacture their rockets with dual-use materials like concrete, steel, chemicals, fuel, explosives, and many other things. These materials, which the Israelis allow to pass through their blockade, are meant for infrastructure in Gaza, only to wind up confiscated by the terrorists for their horrific attacks, Mr. Speaker.

If anybody questions the existence of the tunnels or their use, I recommend they go on the next codel to Israel to